(a) whether Gulf Oil Trading Corporation (GOTCO) the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and other Private Oil Companies have agreed to set up joint refinery projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) if not, at what stage the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Indian Oil Corporation has the approval to set up a joint venture refinery in the East Coast. M|s. Ashok Leyland—GOTCO has approached IOC for being the coventurer in the project. Government has decided that IOC may go ahead with the project on its own for the present.

Global Tenders for Joint Ventures by Indian Petroleum Firms

3708. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
. . . .
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goverment have floated global tenders to set up joint ventures with Indian firms for the exploration and production of petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details of companies who have shown interest to set up joint ventures with Indian firms; and

(c) whether the ONGC has been totally ignored and if so the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The last date for the receipt of bids is 15th September, 1995.

(c) As per the bidding terms, ONGC or OIL would take a participating interest of between 25 per cent and 40 per cent in the joint venture.

Tatkal Scheme for Releasing LPG Connections

3709. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new TATKAL scheme has been introduced for the immediate release of LPG connections;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof;

(c) the people eligible under this scheme; and

(d) the reaction of common man to this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) On the 30th March, 1995 Government approved a scheme for release of LPG connection on demand (Tatkal) to the following categories of prospective customers:—

(a) Physically handicapped persons.

(b) Doctors under medical profession.

(c) NRIs

(d) Staff of foreign nationality serving in embassies, consulates, trade commissioners.